

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 007981

43

ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

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DRAFTED BY:S/S:JPMOFFAT

APPROVED BY:S/S:JPMOFFAT

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P 131939Z JAN 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY JIDDA PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 007981

NODIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION TO SECSTATE JAN 13, 1976 FROM CAIRO

QUOTE S E C R E T CAIRO 0438

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS MARR SA EG US

SUBJECT: TRAINING OF EGYPTIANS IN SAUDI F-5 PROGRAM

REF: A. STATE 007676 (RPT JIDDA 0240), B. STATE 003251.

1. IN LIGHT REFTEL B, NO RPT NO FURTHER DISCUSSIONS
HAVE BEEN HELD HERE WITH GOE ON TERMINATION OF
EGYPTIAN F-5 TRAINING PROGRAM IN SAUDI ARABIA. JUDGING
FROM REFTEL A, NONE OF THE PROMISED ACTIONS HAVE BEEN
TAKEN. VP MOBAREK IS, OF COURSE, IN ADDIS IN CONNECTION
WITH OAU MEETING AND WE HAVE NO WAY OF KNOWING IF HE ISSUED
PROMISED INSTRUCTIONS PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE.

2. I SUSPECT THAT BOTH THE SAUDI AND EGYPTIANS
ARE DELIBERATELY DRAGGING THEIR FEET ON THIS MATTER.
I UNDERSTAND SAUDIS TOLD EGYPTIANS SOME TWO WEEKS

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AGO, AFTER ATHERTON VISIT, ABOUT OUR REQUEST. AT THAT

TIME MODA PRIMIN SULTAN REPORTEDLY STATED THAT SAUDIS WOULD NOT TAKE INITIATIVE TO TERMINATE PROGRAM. IF EGYPTIANS WISHED TO DO SO, THAT WAS THEIR BUSINESS. BUT, SULTAN REPORTEDLY ASKED, WHAT WOULD BE AFFECT ON EGYPTIAN TRAINEES OF ACTION BY SADAT, AT USG BEHEST, TO REQUEST TERMINATION OF THE PROGRAM BEFORE COMPLETION. I KNOW, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT MARWAN, WHO RECEIVED THIS MESSAGE FROM SULTAN, IS STRONGLY OPPOSED TO TERMINATION ON GROUNDS IT WOULD BE BADLY RECEIVED BY EGYPTIAN MILITARY AND WOULD HURT SADAT'S REPUTATION AMONG ARMED FORCES.

3. I SUSPECT THAT, RECOGNIZING SENSITIVITY OF TERMINATION ACTION VIS-A-VIS THEIR OWN OFFICERS, THE EGYPTIANS HAVE AND WILL DO NOTHING ABOUT IT. INSTEAD THEY PROBABLY HOPE THE PROBLEM WILL SOMEHOW GO AWAY. IN MY JUDGMENT, IF IT IS ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL THAT PROGRAM BE TERMINATED, ANOTHER APPROACH WILL HAVE TO BE MADE HERE TO SADAT, MOBAREK, GAMASY OR FAHMY. WITHOUT THIS, ISSUE IS LIKELY TO REMAIN IN LIMBO.

4. SUGGEST THIS MESSAGE BE PASSED JIDDA FOR ITS INFO. ELTS
UNQUOTE KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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